

REMARKS


Claims 9-17 are pending. New claims 14-17 are supported in the specification at page 1, line 21-22 and page 3, lines 7-8; page 2, lines 15-16 and page 3, line 1; and page 3, 19-22, respectively.

Claims 10-13 stand objected to as depending from cancelled claim 1. Applicant adopts the Examiner's helpful suggestion and has amended each of claims 10-13 to depend from claim 9.

Claims 9-13 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obvious-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 4, 6, 7 and 8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,647,690. In response, Applicant has concurrently filed an appropriate Terminal Disclaimer.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all objections and rejections are overcome. Thus, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below. If any additional fee is necessary to make this paper complete, it may be charged to the undersigned's deposit account number 19-4375.

Respectfully submitted,



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